

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 12-18 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claim 18 has been amended to further clarify Applicant's claimed invention.

Prior Art Rejections

The Examiner has rejected all of the claims (1-10 and 12-18) under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Wise et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,884,262). Applicant traverses these rejections because the cited references fail to disclose or suggest all of the claim limitations. Specifically, at least the following claim limitations are not disclosed or suggested:

Claim 1:

packet control means for transmitting at least one of image information and character information of the information searched out by said information search means to said terminal by packet communication.

Claim 12:

packet communication means for outputting at least one of image information and character information to said display screen by performing packet communication with the center; and

Claim 13:

packet control means for transmitting at least one of image information and character information of the information searched out by said information search means to the terminal by packet communication.

Claim 18:

packet control means for transmitting at least one of image information and character information of the information searched out by said information means to said terminal by packet communication.

Regarding independent claims 1, 12, 13 and 18, the Examiner concedes that Chen fails to disclose speech recognition means for recognizing a speech signal received by said speech

control means and sent from said terminal and packet control means for transmitting at least one of image information and character information of the information searched out by said information search means to said terminal by packet communication. In order to make up for this deficiency, the Examiner cites to Wise et al., and in particular to col. 6, lines 14-67.

However, Wise et al., fails to disclose the claim limitation “transmitting at least one of image information and character information of the information searched out by said information search means.” This is because Wise et al. discloses converting text, images and graphics to an audio file, which is then read to the user. See for example, col. 7, line 56 to col. 8, line 20.

Also, a terminal of the present claimed invention includes both a speech communication circuit and a packet communication circuit, and it can connect to both a speech communication network and a packet communication network. On the other hand, the terminal of Wise et al. is either a POTS terminal or an ISDN terminal. In other words, the terminal of Wise cannot connect selectively to a speech communication network and a packet communication network.

According to the present claimed invention, while a terminal performs an information search by means of an information search function using a packet communication, the search information can be transmitted by speech to the center side by starting a speech communication function. However, Wise et al. fails to disclose packet control means, provided at the center side, for directly transmitting to the terminal by means of a packet communication the information (image/character information) that can be displayed on the screen from the information searched by the information search means.

Regarding dependent claims 2-10 and 14-17, they should be allowable at least based on their dependence from claims 1 and 13.

In addition, claim 9 requires a display screen on which image/character information transmitted by packet communication from the center is displayed. The Examiner concedes Chen does not disclose this element and asserts that Wise et al. does in col. 6, lines 14-51. However, there is no disclosure in Wise et al. of the display of image/character information transmitted from a center by packet communication.

Independent claim 12 also requires a display screen on which image/character information transmitted by packet communication from the center is displayed. The Examiner concedes Chen does not disclose this element and asserts that Wise et al. does in col. 6, lines 14-51. However, there is no disclosure in Wise et al. of the display of image/character information transmitted from a center by packet communication.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111
USSN: 09/771,880

Q62767

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Carl J. Pellegrini
Registration No. 40,766

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: May 19, 2005